

1. (currently amended) A method for applying an annotation file comprising:

automatically identifying at least one desired portion of a multimedia presentation by user's equipment;

said equipment automatically creating an annotation file for the multimedia presentation, the annotation file containing at least one pointer corresponding to the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation and

using the at least one pointer for automatically presenting only the one or more portions of the multimedia presentation identified as being desired to a user while eliminating any other portions of the multimedia presentation and without displaying the annotations.

2. (previously amended) The method for applying an annotation file of claim 1 further comprising:

creating a recorded program file of the multimedia presentation;

playing the recorded program file on a viewing system; and  
accessing the annotation file such that only the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation is displayed by the viewing system automatically.

3. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying at least one desired portion of a multimedia presentation includes applying a predetermined set of criteria to the multimedia presentation.

4. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined set of criteria are based upon a preference of an individual viewer.

5. (previously amended) The method for applying an annotation file of claim 1, wherein the annotation file further contains: information related to the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation.

6. (currently amended) A method for applying an annotation file comprising:

    broadcasting an event to a first location;  
    simultaneously identifying at least one desired portion of the event at a location remote ~~from~~ from said first location;

    creating an annotation file for the event substantially simultaneously to said broadcasting, the annotation file containing at least one pointer, the at least one pointer corresponding to the at least one desired portion of the event;  
and

    transmitting to a viewing system the annotation file as a transmission that is distinct from the broadcast of the event, the annotation file causing the viewing system to automatically display only desired portions of the event without displaying the annotations.

7. (previously amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the annotation file is transmitted subsequent to the event.

8. (currently amended) A set-top box including a machine-readable medium including instructions, which when executed by a processor, perform a method, comprising:

automatically identifying at least one desired portion of a multimedia presentation by said set-top box;

automatically creating an annotation file at said set-top box for a multimedia presentation, the annotation file containing at least one pointer corresponding to at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation and applying the annotation file such that only one or more portions of the multimedia presentation that were identified are displayed by a viewing system automatically without displaying the annotations.

9. (previously amended) The set-top box of claim 8, wherein the multimedia is stored as a recorded program file.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (previously amended) The set-to box of claim 8, wherein the annotation file further contains: information related to the at least one portion of the multimedia presentation.

13. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a memory;

a recorded program file stored within the memory, the recorded program file created from a multimedia presentation;

an annotation file automatically created by said apparatus without user intervention and stored within the memory, the annotation file comprising a pointer point to at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation;

an annotation management software stored within the memory;  
and

a processor to execute the annotation management software, execution of the annotation management software causing the recorded program file and the annotation file to be accessed such that a display device displays only the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation without displaying the annotations.

14. (previously amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the at least one desired portion of a multimedia presentation is determined by applying a predetermined set of criteria to the multimedia presentation.

15. (previously amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the predetermined set of criteria is based upon a preference of an individual viewer.

16. (previously amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the annotation file further contains: information related to the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation.

17. (previously amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the annotation file further contains: information related to a portion of the multimedia presentation other than the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation.

18. (currently amended) A system comprising:  
an editor to automatically create an annotation file, without user prompt or intervention, the annotation file containing at least one pointer, the at least one pointer corresponding to at least one desired portion of a multimedia presentation based on at least one predefined set of criterion or criteria;

a first transmission medium to transmit the multimedia presentation to a multimedia viewing system;

and a second transmission medium to transmit the annotation file to the multimedia viewing system such that the multimedia viewing system displays only the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation without displaying the annotations.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the annotation file further contains: information related to the at least one desired portion of the multimedia presentation.